

Remarks

Claims 1-51 were originally filed in this application.

Claims 4-6, 18, 31, 39-48, and 50-51 were previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 52-61 were previously presented.

Claims 34-61 were previously withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Claim 49 was subsequently rejoined with the elected claims. Claims 34-48 and 50-61 remain withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1, 10, 20, 34, 49, 52, 55, and 57 are currently amended without introducing new matter. Support for the amendments to these claims can be found throughout the specification, claims, and drawings as originally filed. For example, at pages 16 and 17, the specification as filed explains that water from a point of entry can be water from any of municipal water, well water, brackish water, and salt water, which can be mixed with bulk water contained in a reservoir.

No new claims are added.

No claims are currently canceled.

Claims 1-3, 7-17, 19-30, 32-33, and 49 are currently pending with claims 1, 10, 20, and 49 being independent claims.

Interview Summary

Applicants thank the examiner for the courtesy of discussing the claims and the cited references in this patent application during an interview on April 1, 2010.

During the interview, particular amendments to the claims were proposed and discussed. Although no agreement was reached, the examiner kindly agreed to consider the claims as amended in a further response.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-3, 7-17, 19-30, 32-33, and 49 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as would have been obvious over the disclosure of Emery et al. in U.S. Patent No. 6,482,304 B1 (hereinafter Emery) in view of the disclosure of Horinouchi et al. in U.S. Patent No. 5,980,716 (hereinafter Horinouchi) and the disclosure of Gallagher et al. in U.S. Patent No. 5,736,023 (hereinafter Gallagher) and further in view of the disclosure of Gadini in International Publication No. WO 01/30229 A1 (hereinafter Gadini).

Applicants kindly request reconsideration of the remarks presented in the Response filed March 17, 2010.

Applicants further note that none of the cited references discloses or suggests a reservoir having or containing water that is municipal water, well water, brackish water, or mixtures thereof. Thus, the prima facie case of obviousness is improper because any alleged combination resulting from the references could not have each limitation in the particular manner recited in any of claims 1-3, 7-17, 19-30, 32-33, and 49.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3, 7-17, 19-30, 32-33, and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as would have been obvious over Emery in view of Horinouchi and Gallagher, and further in view of Gadini is respectfully requested.

Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims

Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of claims 34-48 and 50-61 with the pending claims.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, this application is in condition for allowance; a notice to this effect is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that the application is

not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

If this Response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicants hereby request any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this Response, including an extension fee that is not covered by an accompanying payment, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 50/2762 (ref. I0168-708219).

Respectfully submitted,
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